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were sufficient for the Government to apprehend on the evening of May 5, that there would be demonstrations on the morning and again in the evening of May 6, that is the only question. There was ample evidence and I will read it to the House if desired to show that no Commissioner of Police with his head on his shoulders and brains in his head could ignore the same." (Cheers.)

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—"According to the answer given by the Chief Minister there was sufficient ground for him to apprehend that there would be a demonstration, and I would like to ask him whether an apprehension of the demonstration alone would warrant issue of orders under section 144 or the material before him should warrant the inference that there would be a breach of the peace?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—"I have answered the question enough; I am afraid it is a debate really that is being conducted. I think questions are intended for eliciting information and not for eliciting arguments."

MR. SPEAKER :—"We shall pass on to the next question." 11-30 a.m.

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—"Sir, now that the Hon. the Chief Minister himself has told us that this has become a debate, it is evident that most of the Members want more information. I therefore request you, Sir, to kindly allow a half-hour debate on this."

MR. SPEAKER :—"I have already allowed enough time for this question the other day and to-day. I am not therefore going to allow a half-hour debate."

Refusal by the Deccan Abkari and Sugar Factory to take sugarcane from the growers.

* 3 Q.—SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether any representations were made on behalf of the sugarcane growers of Karur and Kulittalai taluks of Tiruchirappalli district to the effect that the Deccan Abkari and Sugar Factory situated at Pugalur refuses to take the sugarcane from the growers; and

(b) whether the Government propose to take any action in the matter?

THE HON. DR. R. NAGANA GOUD :—"(a) Yes.

"(b) Yes. The Government have already asked the Factory Management to complete crushing of all the registered cane before closing down. The management's final reply is awaited.

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"Sir, since the answer was prepared, I understand the factory has been closed down without notice. The Government will enquire immediately into the rights and wrongs of the matter and will try to do what can be done."

SRI P. B. K. RAJACHIDAMBARAM :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government before passing the previous order, enquired into the rights and wrongs of the representations of the ryots? "

THE HON. DR. R. NAGANA GOUD :—" Notice."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" Sir, are the Government aware that the sugarcane standing on the fields will become completely waste if this question is not immediately decided? "

THE HON. DR. R. NAGANA GOUD :—" Sir, I have said that the Government will immediately enquire into the rights and wrongs of the matter and will do what can be done."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I have allowed the hon. Member Mr. Kalyanasundaram to speak sitting in his seat as he is unwell."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" May I know the personnel of the management of the company? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, I am sorry to interrupt. When the enquiry takes place, the whole question will be gone into. I am afraid the disclosure of the names of the persons may lead to prejudice. I therefore beg of the hon. Member not to put the question."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" Sir, the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture was pleased to say that an enquiry was about to take place immediately. Will the Government please take alternative measures to prevent deterioration of sugarcane and the consequent loss to the agriculturists? "

THE HON. DR. R. NAGANA GOUD :—" Everything that is necessary will be done by the Government."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" Sir, asking for information, I would like to put it through you, Sir, is not prejudicing the case. I would like to know whether the Hon. the Chief Minister is not willing to reply simply because it is going to prejudice the case? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, the hon. Member who put the question has been kind and reasonable enough not to repeat the question. I don't think it is good form for any hon. Member to insist on the names being mentioned, especially when my appeal has made an impression on the person who put the question. If the hon. Member wants to know what the kind of prejudice is and what the objections are for naming the persons, the answer may add to the difficulties. The Hon. Minister in charge has promised to do all he can and enquire into the rights and wrongs. I don't think there is any substance for further discussion. Whether he is a Mussalman or a Christian, does it make any difference except for prejudice? "

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SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—" On a point of order, Sir, I want to know whether the Hon. the Chief Minister is entitled to make a statement when the Hon. the Minister in charge is replying? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" Certainly."

SRI P. B. K. RAJACHIDAMBARAM :—" In spite of the advice of the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture, the factory authorities have closed down the factory. May I request the Government to take immediate steps so that the ryots do not have to suffer any further? "

THE HON. DR. R. NAGANA GOUD :—" Sir, the answer to clause (b) of the question was that immediate action would be taken in the matter? "

SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—" Will the Government be pleased to state the loss incurred by the sugarcane growers? "

THE HON. DR. R. NAGANA GOUD :—" Notice."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" Are the Government aware that cultivation this year also is affected over a large area because of the adamant attitude of the factory authorities? "

THE HON. DR. R. NAGANA GOUD :—" The whole question will be gone into, Sir."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" May I know the quantity of sugarcane that is lying idle on account of the closure of the factory? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" If hon. Members will pardon me and if you will permit me, Sir, I wish to state that I have received numerous telegrams on this point and it is necessary to look into the matter urgently and it is being done. Unfortunately the policy that we have to look into now is an old policy by which certain sugarcane areas have been registered and allotted by registration to certain factories to manufacture sugar out of cane. Luckily, I found on enquiry that, unlike in other areas in India, the liberty of the cane-growers to make their own jaggery has not been taken away in our State. It is a very good thing. By agreement there are certain conditions for the supply of cane to the factories and the manufacture of sugar, binding the factories and the cultivators of the area. The legal position must be examined and the rights and wrongs also have to be examined. The cane-growers derive more benefit by the factory's sugar manufacture, than by independent manufacture of jaggery. It is a state of affairs in which each gets bound to the other. Now, the factory owner says, ' My machinery has to be overhauled and I have to close it.' We cannot simply by our order physically keep the machinery going. These are the difficulties we have to look into and hon. Members may rest assured that I shall have an eye on the difficulties of the cane-growers as well as the urgency of the repairs to the machinery

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that is alleged, and whether it is true that work has to be stopped. Whether the damage is much or small, we will try to minimise it as much as possible. This is my assurance to the poor sugarcane-growers. Hon. Members on the opposite side as also on this side are interested in the matter and the House may rest assured that everything that is possible will be done."

Revision of the price of paddy.

* 4 *Q.*—SRI R. KRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether the Government have recommended to the Central Government, raising the price of paddy, and if so, why? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" This Government had recommended to the Government of India an increase in the procurement price of paddy for the khariff year 1951–52 for the following reasons :—

(1) The cost of production had increased;

(2) Prices of essential commodities other than foodgrains had increased;

(3) Procurement prices in Madras State were lower when compared to the other deficit States in the Indian Union causing a lot of heart-burning to the producers in this State. Protests against such discrimination were made in the Legislature and the Press;

(4) A stimulus in the shape of increase in the price of foodgrains was necessary for the success of the Grow More Food Campaign and also to arrest the tendency on the part of producers to switch over to commercial crops for which higher prices were prevailing; and

(5) The Government of India increased the pool prices of imported paddy and Orissa State was charging higher prices for its rice exports to this State.

SRI R. KRISHNAN :—" Does not this increase in the price of paddy increase the price to the consumer? Was the purchasing capacity of the consumer taken into consideration? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The increase was only annas eight per maund and it was not considerable."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" Is it a fact, Sir, that the heavy export charges which the P.C.C. Societies impose are one of the reasons for the increase in the price of rice? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I don't think that factor has got anything to do with this, Sir."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—" May I know, Sir, what the rates recommended to, and agreed by the Central Government were? "